

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, October 24, 2007.
Hon. JOHN M. SPRATT Jr.,
Chairman, Committee on the Budget,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The enclosed report shows the effects of Congressional action on the fiscal year 2008 budget and is current through October 19, 2007. This report is submitted under section 308(b) and in aid of section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act, as amended.

The estimates of budget authority, outlays, and revenues are consistent with the technical and economic assumptions of S.

Con. Res. 21, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2008, as approved by the Senate and the House of Representatives.

Pursuant to section 204(b) of S. Con. Res. 21, provisions designated as emergency requirements are exempt from enforcement of the budget resolution. As a result, the enclosed current level report excludes these amounts (see footnote 1 of the report).

Since my last letter to you, dated September 6, 2007, the Congress has cleared and the President has signed the following acts that affect budget authority, outlays, or revenues for fiscal year 2008: College Cost Reduction and Access Act (Public Law 110-84); Food and Drug Administration Amendments

Act of 2007 (Public Law 110-85); an act to extend the trade adjustment assistance program under the Trade Act of 1974 for 3 months (Public Law 110-89); TMA, Abstinence Education, and QI Programs Extension Act of 2007 (Public Law 110-90); and an act making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2008, and for other purposes (Public Law 110-92).

In addition, the Congress has cleared the Water Resources Development Act of 2007 (H.R. 1495) for the President's signature.

Sincerely,

ROBERT A. SUNSHINE
(For Peter R. Orszag, Director).

Enclosure.

FISCAL YEAR 2008 HOUSE CURRENT LEVEL REPORT AS OF OCTOBER 19, 2007

[In millions of dollars]

	Budget authority	Outlays	Revenues
Enacted in previous session:			
Revenues	n.a.	n.a.	2,050,796
Permanents and other spending legislation	1,450,532	1,390,611	n.a.
Appropriation legislation	0	419,269	n.a.
Offsetting receipts	-575,635	-575,635	n.a.
Total, enacted in previous session	874,897	1,234,245	2,050,796
Enacted this session:			
U.S. Troop Readiness, Veterans' Care, Katrina Recovery, and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act, 2007 (P.L. 110-28) ¹	1	42	-335
An act to extend the authorities of the Andean Trade Preference Act until February 29, 2008 (P.L. 110-42)	0	0	-41
A bill to provide for the extension of Transitional Medical Assistance (TMA) and the Abstinence Education Program through the end of fiscal year 2007, and for other purposes (P.L. 110-48)	96	99	0
A joint resolution approving the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003, and for other purposes (P.L. 110-52)	0	0	-2
Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 (P.L. 110-53)	0	-425	0
College Cost Reduction and Access Act (P.L. 110-84)	-326	-992	0
Food and Drug Administration Amendments Act of 2007 (P.L. 110-85)	-3	-3	0
An act to extend the trade adjustment assistance program under the Trade Act of 1974 for 3 months (P.L. 110-89)	9	9	0
TMA, Abstinence Education, and QI Programs Extension Act of 2007 (P.L. 110-90)	815	804	0
Total, enacted this session	592	-466	-378
Passed, pending signature:			
Water Resources Development Act of 2007 (H.R. 1495)	-1	-1	0
Continuing Resolution Authority:			
An act making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2008, and for other purposes (P.L. 110-92) ¹	923,554	585,600	0
Entitlements and mandatories:			
Budget resolution estimates of appropriated entitlements and other mandatory programs	547,255	532,903	0
Total Current Level ^{1,2}	2,346,297	2,352,281	2,050,418
Total Budget Resolution ³	2,496,764	2,469,698	2,015,841
Adjustment to the budget resolution for emergency requirements ⁴	-606	-49,990	n.a.
Adjustment to the budget resolution pursuant to section 207(d)(1)(E) ⁵	-145,162	-65,754	n.a.
Adjusted Budget Resolution	2,350,996	2,353,954	2,015,841
Current Level Over Adjusted Budget Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	34,577
Current Level Under Adjusted Budget Resolution	4,699	1,673	n.a.
Memorandum:			
Revenues, 2008-2012:			
House Current Level	n.a.	n.a.	11,313,688
House Budget Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	11,137,671
Adjusted Budget Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	11,137,671
Current Level Over Adjusted Budget Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	176,017
Current Level Under Adjusted Budget Resolution	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

¹ Pursuant to section 204(b) of S. Con. Res. 21, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2008, provisions designated as emergency requirements are exempt from enforcement of the budget resolution. The amounts so designated for fiscal year 2008, which are not included in the current level totals, are as follows:

	Budget authority	Outlays	Revenues
U.S. Troop Readiness, Veterans' Care, Katrina Recovery, and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act, 2007 (P.L. 110-28)	605	48,639	n.a.
An act making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2008, and for other purposes (P.L. 110-92)	5,178	1,024	n.a.

² For purposes of enforcing section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act in the House, the budget resolution does not include budget authority, outlays, or revenues for off-budget amounts. As a result, current level excludes these items.

³ Periodically, the House Committee on the Budget revises the totals in S. Con. Res. 21, pursuant to various provisions of the resolution:

	Budget authority	Outlays	Revenues
Original Budget Resolution	2,496,028	2,469,636	2,015,858
Revisions:			
To reflect the difference between the assumed and actual nonemergency supplemental appropriations for fiscal year 2007 (section 207(f))	1	1	-17
For extension of the Transitional Medical Assistance (TMA) program (section 320(c))	96	99	0
For the College Cost Reduction and Access Act (section 306(b))	-176	-842	0
Extension of the Transitional Medical Assistance (TMA) program (section 320(c)) (updated to reflect final scoring)	815	804	0
Revised Budget Resolution	2,496,764	2,469,698	2,015,841

⁴ S. Con. Res. 21 assumed \$606 million in budget authority and \$49,990 million in outlays from emergency supplemental appropriations. Such emergency amounts are exempt from the enforcement of the budget resolution. Since current level totals exclude the emergency requirements enacted in P.L. 110-28 (see footnote 1 above), budget authority and outlay totals specified in the budget resolution also have been reduced (by the amounts assumed for emergency supplemental appropriations) for purposes of comparison.

⁵ Section 207(d)(1)(E) of S. Con. Res. 21 assumed \$145,162 million in budget authority and \$65,754 million in outlays for overseas deployment and related activities. Pending action by the House Committee on Appropriations, the House Committee on the Budget has directed that these amounts be excluded from the budget resolution aggregates in the current level report.

Source: Congressional Budget Office.

Note.—n.a. = not applicable; P.L. = Public Law.

THE COST OF SCHIP AND THE
COST OF WAR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I customarily do not find myself on the floor after the close of business, but I am here today because I genuinely find myself in the position of concern that I believe a significant number of Americans share.

We have passed, out of the House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate, a measure that will provide health care to many of this Nation's children who presently are uninsured. The President, exercising his prerogative, vetoed that

measure, and as a result of that, further discussions are ongoing, and the need, again, is to put forward a measure that will provide health care for 10 million children in this country that find themselves and their families without the necessary assistance for medical care.

Mr. Speaker, the President, on the day before yesterday, proposed that there be an additional \$49 billion spent in Iraq and Afghanistan.

There's no one in the House of Representatives who does not support the military efforts of the United States military. There's no one in the House of Representatives who is not exceedingly proud of the extraordinary work that the military has done. The military has done what the Commander-in-Chief required of them, and for those of us, as policymakers, expect that they would be able to do.

And quite frankly, one of my colleagues is preparing legislation that talks about the benchmarks that we had originally set for the military and the fact that the military, the U.S. military and the coalition forces have achieved all of those benchmarks. And, in short, we could not arguably say, with the removal of Saddam Hussein or with other temporizing measures that have been brought to various provinces in Iraq, that the military has not been successful. They have been. And when they come home we want them to receive the proud accolades of the American citizenry, and that's every Member of the United States House of Representatives.

But let's compare the cost in that particular effort with the cost for our children's health. Forty-one days in Iraq would provide health insurance for 10 million children.

Now, I don't know all of the nuances of the defense budget, but I have reason to believe that if we did not give all of the money as requested by the President that this particular effort could be run for a substantial period of time.

I might add, all of us are mindful of how stretched the United States military is. But you know something? Without knowing, I would venture a guess that some soldier's child may not be properly insured in this country. Some soldier's child. To my way of thinking, that is absurd. For us to be in the position, a Nation as resourceful as our Nation, a Nation as accomplished as our Nation, a Nation with genuinely the best physicians and nurses and hospitals in the world would find ourselves in this position.

We must pass SCHIP, and we must do so immediately.

□ 1530

HONORING THE LIFE OF SENATOR PAUL WELLSTONE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. ELLISON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to the House's attention that it was on October 25 a few years ago, not long it seems, only days ago, in 2002 that our State of Minnesota lost Senator Paul Wellstone.

Paul Wellstone, Mr. Speaker, was a United States Senator, was a professor of politics, political science, at Carleton College. Paul Wellstone was an organizer of average citizens in Minnesota and helped them to discover their own power and their ability to maneuver the instrumentality of government to work for the benefit of the average citizen. Paul Wellstone was actually the State Chair of the Jackson for President campaign in 1988.

Paul Wellstone was truly a friend of all working people everywhere on the globe. And I just wanted to let you know, Mr. Speaker, that as we approach October 25, and I reflect back upon my own personal exposure and friendship with Paul Wellstone, whose picture hangs in my office right now, that I just wanted this day to go by with us in contemplation of what a true servant leader represents.

Paul Wellstone was a friend of mine. I'm proud to say that he was a political hero of mine as well. I had the awesome benefit of knowing him, and I'll never forget some of the things he said to me. But, among those things was to make sure that you never ever stop listening to the people.

Paul Wellstone was comfortable anywhere he went. He was comfortable in the hair shops, the beauty salons and the laundromats. Paul Wellstone obviously was comfortable in the halls of power in Congress.

Paul Wellstone, wherever he went, was a person who understood that he carried a sacred trust, that government service was a trust that the people of the State of Minnesota entrusted in him, that it was not a privilege, but it was an awesome responsibility, and he never forgot it.

Paul Wellstone was a leader in many ways and was an example to young people like myself. And as I think what his life means to me, means to the people of Minnesota, I have to consider that it is also that awesome responsibility that he laid out there. A servant leader, Mr. Speaker. Not just somebody who was looking to be served but a person who was looking to serve.

Paul Wellstone's favorite color was green, that was the color of his campaign literature, because it symbolized life. And I shamelessly copied it, Mr. Speaker, because I wanted to carry on that spirit of service, of being evergreen, of being ever new, and being committed to the idea that we have to constantly and continuously renew ourselves, our values, our faith, and our consistency when it comes to serving people all over the world.

So, Mr. Speaker, I want to say that whether it was veterans, of whom Paul Wellstone was a tireless advocate, or whether it was students or whether it was the poor in our country, and I will

never forget the tour he took around this country to highlight poverty in America, Paul Wellstone could always be found serving people. His loss was a tragic loss.

Only the day before we lost him, he was scheduled to come to my office, and we were going to do some campaigning together. It was a long night, Mr. Speaker, when we heard back the reports as the news reports said that a plane has gone down in Ely, Minnesota, and it was thought to be containing Paul Wellstone and his partner, Sheila Wellstone, and their daughter and several other campaigners. We hoped all night that what we thought might have happened didn't happen, but at the end of the evening, we learned that that tragedy, in fact, did occur. Our worst fears were confirmed when we learned that we lost him, but it was a long several hours before we realized that that tragedy had actually occurred, and we had hoped against hope. I will never forget that night.

Mr. Speaker, as I wind down my remarks, I just want to say that in many ways I have dedicated my service and take great inspiration from Senator Wellstone. I will never forget him, and I hope that this House and Senate never do, either.

30-SOMETHING WORKING GROUP

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SARBANES). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MEEK) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to address the House once again.

I share the sentiment of my colleague in recognizing Senator Wellstone. He was definitely a cornerstone here in this building for public service and really was a student of many of our great leaders of the past and gave voice to health care in a way that no other can do it.

As you know, in the 30-Something working group, we come to the floor every day, or just about every day we are in session, to share with the Members the things that we have to continue to work on here in the House in a bipartisan way and also share with the Members the importance of making sure that we stand up on behalf of those Americans that need our assistance.

At this time, Mr. Speaker, I would like to yield to my colleague to address the House for as long as he would wish to do so.

Mr. LAMPSON. I thank the gentleman for yielding to me and for allowing me to take a minute or two to talk of a person who has done something significant for our country.

Mr. Speaker, it is a distinct honor and a privilege to be a Member of this House and to be from the great State of Texas and to have in my district the home of American manned spaceflight,